Celebrating The Life Of

Julius Carl Butler

Sunrise: August 13, 1932 - Sunset: August 10, 2008

Saturday, August 16, 2008 at 10:00 am

Angelus Funeral Home
3875 South Crenshaw Boulevard • Los Angeles, California 90008

Reverend Dr. Cecil L. "Chip" Murray, Officiating
Pastor Emeritus; Tanzy Chair of Christian Ethics
Senior Fellow Religion and Civic Culture
School of Religion, University of Southern California

Order Of Service

Processional.....*Family & Ministers*

Invocation.....*Reverend John Cager*

Scripture Readings
Old Testament: Exodus 4-7&10-16.....*Reverend J.D. Moore*
New Testament: I Corinthians 12:5-28.....*Reverend John Cager*

Selection: "I Won't Complain".....*Martha Taylor LaCroix*

Reflections (2 minutes please).....*Bishop Donald R. Cook*
Ministers of F.A.M.E. Church Representative.....*Jeanne Beharry*
Friend.....*Art McCullough*
Drew Murray Scholarship Program.....*Kendall Henderson*
Former Los Angeles City Councilman.....*David Cunningham*
Attorney.....*William "Bill" Flanagan*
Master Gunnery Sergeant (U.S. Marines. Retired).....*Robert D. Reid*

Selection.....*"Stand"*

Acknowledgements.....*Marion Helenkamp*

Silent Reading of Life Story.....*"Yesterday I Cried My Last Tear"*

Selection: "I Give You Jesus".....*Martha Taylor LaCroix*

Eulogy.....*Reverend Dr. Cecil L. "Chip" Murray*

Benediction.....*Reverend Dr. Cecil L. "Chip" Murray*

Parting View

Interment

Forest Lawn • Hollywood Hills
6300 Forest Lawn Drive
Los Angeles CA 90068

Life Story

Julius Carl Butler, affectionately known to many has "Julio," was born August 13, 1932, in the City of Los Angeles, State of California. He was the only son and eldest of three children born to the union of Lettie O. Butler and Julius Butler.

Julius was preceded in death by his dear, dear mother, his father, his sister, Joyce L. Bird; his half-brother, Donald Scott (Butler); and nephews, Joseph Linton and Darryl Linton. Left to cherish his memories are his sister, Ruth A. Bullock; aunt, Hattie Edna McDaniel; sons, Dennis C. Butler and Bernard J. Butler; sister-in-law, Marilyn Scott (Butler) (widow of Donald); grandchildren, Sinclair Morgan Butler and Diamond Butler; nieces, Tanya Hollins and Gina Bird; nephew, Dedrick Brown; grandnephews, Andre Hollins and Joshua Brown; grandnieces, Zoe Brown, Sophia Brown, and Alexondria McQueen; great-grandniece, Tiara Lenai Hollins; "Godsisters," Beverly Leacock, Joan Murray, and Marion Helenkamp; "Godnieces," Arianne Helenkamp, Kandace Benefield, and Gentamu McKinney; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Julius received all of his education in the City and County of Los Angeles, California. In the summer of 1950, he graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, and was honored to give the Salutatorian Address. He majored in drama and art in high school. Julius loved music and attending church. He sang in choirs, and played the trumpet. Julius played in the Mount Olive C.O.G.I.C. church band as far back as the late 1940's. His large music collection ranges from jazz to classic, from country-western to gospel.

Julius' father felt that sports was a waste of a black males time, consequently he turned to his cousin, ranking middle weight fighter, Cecil Hudson. Through Cecil, he worked at the downtown Los Angeles Grocery market for trainer Gladstone Bell, who secretly trained him to box. Soon after graduating high school, Julius enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was initially assigned to Barstow Marine Base, in Special Service, furthering his boxing ambitions under the training of Master Sergeant "Red" Walsh. Teammate, Billy Hile, then All-Navy, Middle Weight Champion, made Julius rethink boxing as a career. He later studied the martial art, Hap Kido, under 9th Dan Master Choi. Julius served his country with courage and valor as a Sergeant in the Korean War, leading a combat patrol, wounded in action, and receiving the Purple Heart. After being honorably discharged, he became a Deputy Sheriff of the Los Angeles County Sherrif's Department. He served the Sheriff's Department until the early 1960's.

Julius had a very interesting and diverse career. His mother called him a "black 20th century renaissance man." After his service in law enforcement, he resigned to become a nationally known hair stylist. After completion of all state requirements, at the then Sutton Universal/Leimert Beauty College, at the top of his class, he studied for two more years at the Clairol Hair Coloring Institute. He was mentored by the world renowned hairstylist, Jerri Jackson and, along with Charles McGruder, Michael Davis, and Kemo, became nationally known as the "Jet Setters." This group of creative men brought bold, new techniques to the industry, revolutionizing black hair texturing and styling. His patrons included Diana Ross, and other Motown artists, along with several professional African-American models and musical entertainers. He was well traveled, as a platform artist, stylist/lecturer for Redkin Laboratories, known in the industry as Mr. Julio. Later, while in college, Julius wrote an award winning paper, entitled "The Parallel Dangers from Post Slavery/Reconstruction to that of the Post Civil Era." Though very successful as a hair stylist, he longed for something more mentally challenging. He chose to study law at the West Los Angeles School of Law, graduating on the Dean's List, the summer of 1978.

For most of Julius' adult life, he was involved in the black political arena. Upon graduation, he was recruited by 10th District, Los Angeles City Councilman, David Cunningham, to serve as his Special Assistant. While attending Law School, he became aware of the many people who went to court without legal help. Julius made a promise to God, vowing, "Lord, if you help me through school, I will render some free service to the poor." In 1981, upon leaving his position with the Los Angeles City, he went to work at Bet Tzedek Legal Service. At that time, it was a small, fledgling Public Interest Law Firm, a storefront with a small staff of six attorneys and five paralegals. He worked there 13 years, in many positions, serving those who were poor, elderly, and on fixed-income. By the time he retired, Bet Tzedek had built two large offices under the direction of William Flanagan, the firm's Home Equity Litigation Team. Bet Tzedek enjoyed many favorable settlements and trial verdicts, and became nationally known for their legal representation of the poor and elderly. After retirement, he joined his law school classmate, Attorney Willie L. Grant, in private practice in Fullerton, California. He continued there, as a trial lawyer, until his health began to fail.

Julius loved the Lord and was very strong in his faith. His earliest church-childhood was spent at the Israel Missionary Baptist Church, founded and pastored by his uncle Reverend H.D. Higdon; at the Mount Zion Baptist Church; and at the Mt. Olive Church of God in Christ. He later worshiped at Trinity Baptist Church, serving there as a Sunday School Teacher, under the guidance of Reverend Dr. Elliott Mason. From 1987 until his death, Julius worshiped at First A.M.E. (F.A.M.E) Church, Los Angeles, under the leadership of Dr. Cecil L. "Chip" Murray. There, he gave as many as 20 hours a week in work of the church. His volunteer activities ranged from homeless feeding to youth mentoring, as a leader in the Rites of Passage Program. He was one of the earliest members of the Richard Allen Men's Society (RAMS). Falling back on his military and law enforcement training, he founded the First A.M.E., Los Angeles Security Teams. He organized the church's parking and traffic control team; he also served as Senior Vice-Chair of the church's Official Board. During the 1992 "insurrection," he organized African-American Church men citywide to patrol the streets of Los Angeles in "Operation Cool Response." He co-coordinated security of Vice President Al Gore's visit to Los Angeles with the Secret Service and the Los Angeles Police Department; he was responsible for the church's security coordination with the Secret Service for President Clinton's two visits to FAME and also the President's FAME sponsored tribute to Bishop H.H. Brookins at the Century City Hotel. Through Reverend Murray, Julius donated many Pro Bono hours of legal advisement to persons seeking assistance. Julius loved serving under the leadership of Dr. Murray; relishing the many opportunities the pastor gave him.

Julius was an active Life Time member of Los Angeles Chapter 8, Montford Point Marine Association. He always talked about the joy he got from fellowshipping with those men, some of whom, were the first African-Americans allowed to enlist and serve in the U.S. Marine Corps. Julius loved church service and the Marine Corps. He was also active in the "East Side Boys," who were men who grew up on the East Side of Los Angeles during the 1920's, through the 1960's.

Only failing health slowed down this long time civic, community, and political activist. To his family and friends, he would say, "If you feel that you have lost me, you haven't. You cannot lose something if you know where it is." Julius has simply gone home to the Father for his earned and deserved rest. He hopes to see each of you on that special Morning.

Active Pallbearers

Sinclair Morgan-Butler
Andre Hollins
Atty. Willie L. Grant
Atty. William "Bill" Flanagan
Charles McGruder
Roger DeVlugt
Rev. J.D. Moore
Diedrick Brown

Honorary Pallbearers

Vernon Harris and J. Mykal Johnson
Brandon DeVlugt
Gregg McDaniels
L.A. Chapter 8, Montford Pointe Marine Association
Los Angeles East Side Boys
Richard Allen Men's Society (RAMS)
First A.M.E. Founding Security Team Members
El Segundo Cancer Support Group

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair;
Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you prayed a sincere prayer, or came to pay a call;
Perhaps you sang a cheerful song, if so, we heard it all,
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say,
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day.
Perhaps you prepared a tasty dish, or maybe furnished a car;
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen, near at hand or from afar.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, by word or deed or touch;
Whatever was the kindly part. We thank you, Oh, So Very Much.
THE FAMILY

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me now I'm Free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call.
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with time of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me.
God wanted me now, He set me free.

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